

# LIFESTYLES

HAWAII MARINE B SECTION

APRIL 7, 2006

## Ice skaters escape tropics



The Ice Palace ice skating rink provides an area specifically for young children and beginners to the sport, where they can use a device to help them keep their balance. The venue also offers youth hockey, adult hockey and a 'Learn to Skate Program.'

**Story and Photos by  
Lance Cpl. Roger L.  
Nelson**

*Combat Correspondent*

While living in what is considered a "tropical paradise," there are many activities that can be done on a hot, sunny day.

But there's a place on Oahu where you can get a break from the sun or rain while still enjoying your time in paradise.

The Ice Palace ice skating rink provides a place where people on Oahu can go and stay active while being in a cooler climate.

"The Ice Palace is considered one of the top public attractions in the state of Hawaii," said Jeremy W. Yantz, customer service representative, at Ice Palace ice skating rink. "The rink is the only full-size ice skating rink on the whole island of Oahu and has an awesome arcade room that provides an area for people to use while

they're taking a break from the ice or done for the day."

According to Yantz, the rink provides a safe place for children to skate and have fun and also supports local ice hockey leagues.

"We have a youth hockey league for people 10 to 20 years old, which goes throughout the whole year and is meant to teach younger people the fundamentals of hockey," said Yantz, an Aiea, Hawaii native. "We also have an adult ice hockey league with nine different teams in it that play here."

Other attractions at the rink include a video game arcade room, pro shop, skate rental and repair shop, and a concession area with snacks.

"I come up here all the time, and it seems like I get a little better — but nothing like the guys you see skating around here," said Dylan Krandt, 15-year-old student. "We come up here usually on weekends just to hang out

and meet new people. A lot of people come here from my school, so it's pretty much the place to be."

Krandt said he plans to try out for the youth hockey league the next time tryouts are held.

"I'm up here every weekend, so I might as well do something productive while I'm here," said Krandt.

According to Yantz, the park also provides skate lessons to those who are new to the sport.

"We have the 'Learn to Skate Program' for the entire family at a really good rate," said Yantz.

"Individual classes are also held for different groups. We have a class called the 'tot' class for children ages 3 to 6 years old, a pre-alpha class for skaters who are starting out and need to learn the basic skills of skating, like going forward, backward and stopping. The alpha class is for more advanced skaters and teaches students forward

stroking, crossovers and snow-plow stops."

According to 31-year-old Yantz, the lessons are a good idea for anyone who is serious about skating.

"If you're looking to get into hockey or any other ice skating sport, then the lessons are recommended," said Yantz. "But, if you're just coming out to skate with your friends, then just go out and have fun." General admission at the Ice Palace ice skating rink is \$7.50, which includes skate rentals.

"It's well worth the money you pay to go into the place and is a lot of fun," said Lance Cpl. Derek T. Mallow, administration clerk, Headquarter's Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base, Hawaii.

For more information about the Ice Palace ice skating rink, contact the ticket office at 487-9921.



Lance Cpl. Derek T. Mallow, administration clerk, 3rd Marine Regiment, here, puts on his rental ice skates before hitting the ice April 2, at Ice Palace ice skating rink.



Brain J. Meyers, construction worker, assists his son, Jon L. Meyers, who took a spill on the ice at Ice Palace, April 2. The Ice Palace is the only skating rink in Hawaii and was the host of the 2005 U.S. Figure Skating Collegiate Championships.

# Marine brothers cross paths in Iraq

**Staff Sgt. Jim Goodwin**  
*Combat Correspondent 1st Marine Division*

CAMP AL ASAD, Iraq — After enlisting in the Marine Corps more than a year apart, two brothers from Canton, Mich., have crossed paths in Iraq, while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lance Cpl. Ian L. Eichel, a 23-year-old motor transportation mechanic with Regimental Combat Team 7, said he was pleasantly surprised March 17, when a gunnery sergeant drove his brother, 21-year-old Lance Cpl. Aaron J. Eichel, to the motor transportation lot here to put the two brothers in touch.

“I was just going on duty at the motor pool when he drove up in a Humvee and said, ‘Hey, Eichel – I’ve got a surprise for you.’ That’s when he (Aaron) jumped out of the truck,” said the older Eichel brother, who has been in Iraq now for nearly two months.

The younger Eichel, a field radio operator with the Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, arrived in Iraq just a few days ago and happened to be in transient at Camp Al Asad while his unit awaited transportation to their forward operating base in

western Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Both are graduates of Salem High School in Canton, Mich. Ian graduated in 2001, Aaron the year after. In true brotherly fashion, the Eichels are very competitive with one another, despite their one year difference of time in the service.

“I beat his rifle score at boot camp,” said the older Eichel, as Aaron shakes his head and smiles.

Back home, the two Marines compete in a different fashion – whoever can catch the biggest fish.

“We only see each other once a year,” admitted Ian, who is based out of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif., with the rest of 7th Marine Regiment.

“I saw him during his predeployment training for Afghanistan last year.”

While both enlisted in the Corps for their own reasons, both wanted to deploy in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Ian will be in Iraq for a year, Aaron for seven months.

“This is a good experience,” said Ian, who has recently spent several weeks assisting Iraqi Security Forces to learn the ins and outs of performing maintenance on Humvees.

“This gives me a chance to save up some money, too.”

“This is where I wanted to go,” added Aaron, who said he misses hanging out with the guys back in Michigan.

“I wanted to see combat, and I have in Afghanistan. But this is the place I wanted to go.”

Both brothers said they miss their parents and other family and friends back home, but also said that they’ll be home soon enough.

Before deploying to Iraq, their mother told them she was worried about them but understood that the two Marines have a job to do, said Ian, who added that the events of 9/11 influenced his decision to enlist.

Both Marines and their units are part of the Camp Pendleton, Calif.-based I Marine Expeditionary Force, a 23,000-plus command of Marines, Sailors and soldiers who are currently replacing the Camp Lejeune, N.C.-based II MEF as part of a regularly scheduled rotation of U.S. troops in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

The Eichel brothers’ youngest sister, 19-year-old Andrea, is also a Marine.

She is currently undergoing Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger, N.C.



Staff Sgt. Jim Goodwin

Lance Cpl. Ian L. Eichel (foreground), a 23-year-old motor transportation mechanic with Regimental Combat Team 7, said he was pleasantly surprised March 17, when he saw his brother, Lance Cpl. Aaron J. Eichel, a 21-year-old field radio operator assigned to Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, while at Camp Al Asad, Iraq. Aaron arrived in Iraq just a few days ago with his unit and happened to be in transient at Camp Al Asad while his unit awaited transportation to their forward operating base in western Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Both Marines are natives of Canton, Mich.

# Sailor credits class for his life



Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree

Petty Officer 2nd Class Tmitri S. Talley, aviation electronics technician, Patrol Squadron Four, stands in front of a motorcycle. Talley was hit by a drunk driver March 14, which he escaped with bruises and scrapes on his leg.

**Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree**  
*Combat Correspondent*

As CH-53 Delta Sea Stallion helicopters taxi before taking off from the Marine Air Facility here., Petty Officer 2nd Class Tmitri S. Talley, aviation electronics technician, Patrol Squadron Four, Navy Forces Pacific, sits on the back of his car thinking back to March 14 when he was hit by a drunk driver.

“I remember I left my apartment and let the bike warm up for a little bit,” said the 29-year-old. “I said to myself, ‘Ok I’m going to go pay my bills and go to work.’ So I took off.

Talley said he was traveling down hill at 35 miles per hour while keeping the flow of traffic, when he noticed the vehicle behind him was following too close. He moved over to the left lane, when he noticed the car in the oncoming traffic lane ready to turn left.

“I did everything to make sure the car noticed me, in fact I was pretty sure she saw me, but she didn’t,” he said.

Talley said as he approached the car, the car turned left with no more than 40 feet between him and the oncoming car.

That’s when Talley put what he learned in a motorcycle safety class into action.

“The motorcycle safety class taught me to look over my right shoulder to make sure that there were no cars in that lane, I moved over,” said the Greenville, S.C. native. “By that time, I was about 20 feet from the car and she was still turning because she didn’t see me. I knew at that time I was too close to do anything but take the hit.

“There were a few choices I had in that situation,” said Talley. “I could have skidded out and gotten run over by the car.”

He continued, “I could have locked up the brake and locked myself up, which would have thrown me over the car. I could have tried to speed up and pass her, but I knew I was too close to try to pass her, or I could have

done what I did; brace for the impact and lean into it.”

After the vehicle hit his motorcycle, he took immediate action. Talley said he regained control of his motorcycle and pulled into a near by parking lot. Although the car followed him in to the lot, the front was badly damaged to where the driver was unable to open her door to check on Talley.

“It was in the parking lot where, after talking to her for a few minutes, that I realized that she had been drinking,” he said. “I could tell she had been drinking, because I could smell it on her. So we exchanged information and the police came and took care of the rest.”

Talley said he was lucky to escape the accident only with scrapes and bruises, and credits the safety class for teaching him what to do when situations like that arise.

“It’s hard to say where I would be if I had not known what to do,” admitted Talley. “Luckily, I was only on crutches for two days after an almost 40-mile-per-hour accident. Nothing was broken. My bike was badly damaged, and I got a hole in my favorite jeans. I’m definitely lucky that’s all I walked away with.”

Talley said he took the motorcycle safety class at Leeward Community College in June 2005 and that he had been practicing what they taught him for that situation.

“There is no question that the safety class benefited me,” he said. “They taught me how to move and maneuver the bike when situations come up, and that could have been what saved my life.”

Talley encourages everyone who is thinking about buying a motorcycle to take the class.

“Before you even buy a bike, take the class,” said Talley.

“The riders and drivers need to pay attention, because that situation could have happened even if she was sober. On this island, motorcycles are everywhere, so people need to pay attention to what they are doing.”

# Marine carves his own path



Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

Lance Cpl. Derek T. Mallow, administrative clerk, Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, stands at Pyramid Rock, here April 4. Pyramid Rock is Mallow’s favorite place on island to surf and he said he comes here at least 3 times a week.

**Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson**  
*Combat Correspondent*

In every Marine’s life there had to have been a point where he or she decided to take the road less traveled and join what is considered the world’s most elite military fighting force.

Lance Cpl. Derek T. Mallow, administration clerk, Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, decided to enlist when he realized he wanted to be different from his peers and join the Marine Corps instead of going off to college.

“I really didn’t just want to go to college like everyone else, because that’s easy. I’m all about challenges,” said the Oceanside, Calif. native.

“I figured I would be ambitious and do my time in the Marines and maybe go to college during my enlistment. That way I’m getting the best of both worlds.”

According to Mallow, his friends didn’t believe him when he told them about his

decision to join the military.

“They thought I was messing around with them, because I was kind of a clown in high school, and they didn’t think I was mature enough,” said the 20-year-old. “But I guess I proved them all wrong.

“My mom was another story all together. She was all for it and was really happy for me. She was really a big influence to me.”

Mallow left for boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Sept. 21, 2003, after being in the Delayed Entry Program for only two weeks.

“Boot camp was great. I knew everything the drill instructors were making us do was for our own good and to make sure we stayed alive, so I dealt with it and stuck it out,” said Mallow.

After graduating boot camp and Marine Combat Training, Mallow then attended his Military Occupational Specialty school at Camp Johnson, N.C., and checked into Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, July 7, 2004.

“When I first got to my duty station, it was rough being at the bottom of the barrel and the new guy,” said the self-proclaimed motivator. “It got a lot better after a while, and I actually had people under me, so it was cool to be in a sort of leadership position.”

According to Cpl. Jon Adams, administration clerk, Headquarters Battalion, Installation Personnel Administration Center, here, when Mallow first checked in here, he could tell Mallow was kind of nervous, but he’s proven himself and has turned out to be a pretty good Marine and a hard worker.

Since arriving in Hawaii, Mallow has been deployed to Australia, where he went through Combined Arms Exercise training.

“I would definitely say going to Australia has been the highlight of my Marine Corps enlistment so far,” said Mallow. “Seeing all of the dif-

ferent animals and things while I was there was amazing, and I would go back for another trip.”

After the Marine Corps Mallow said he plans on finishing up college and becoming a real estate agent.

“I’m currently going to college for criminal law at Hawaii Pacific University,” said Mallow. “For now, I’m unsure whether or not I’m going to stay in the Marines or not, but if and when my time comes to get out of the Marine Corps, I’ll hopefully have a real estate license and start a career in that.”

Mallow said his enlistment has been very good thus far, and he thinks it has been a good experience for him.

“When I first joined, I had a lot of growing up to do,” said Mallow. “The Marine Corps has helped me grow up and become a lot more responsible.

I think everyone should consider joining some branch of the service,” he offered. “It just makes people a better all-around person and I’m glad I took this route for my life.”

## MCCS Briefs

www.mccshawaii.com

### Kahuna’s Sports Bar & Grill

254-7660/7661

The Crud, Friday at 10 p.m.

**Monday nights, play NTN Trivia night.** Play against other sports bars from around the world.

The last Monday of each month play for a golf bag.

### Cancellation

**Baby Bash meet and greet session** and concert scheduled for Thursday and Friday, respectively, are now cancelled.

### Staff NCO Club

254-5481

**Payday Lunch Buffet** is the new lunch alternative offered at the Staff NCO Club April 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This offer is on a trial basis for 90 days and will feature a buffet with different entrees.

Patrons are invited to complete a survey to comment on which of the items they enjoyed most.

Call the club to make advanced seating arrangements for parties of eight or more.

### The Officers’ Club

254-7650

**First Friday Night is tonight,** so music and pupus will begin at 4:30 p.m. Music will continue until 10:30 p.m.

**Seafood Buffet is served Thursday** from 6 to 8 p.m. Menu items include snow crab legs, carved black Angus prime rib, peel ‘n’ eat shrimp, south of the border ahi poke, and much more.

### All Hands

**The Key Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony** will take place Friday at Pop Warner Field from 4 to 6 p.m.

The Commanding General will give an address followed by a presentation and gift to each of the volunteers.

For more information, call 257-7777.

**Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program** is a communication and problem-solving skills workshop for married or engaged couples.

The course will be held at the new Base Chapel from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Materials and lunch are provided at no charge.

If interested, contact Chaplain Nestor Nazario at 257-3552, ext. 23.

# Department of Defense salutes the military child

Steven Donald Smith

Press Release  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The Defense Department has long understood the value of caring for and celebrating children of service members.

April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. The Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and challenges they overcome.

Military children face many obstacles unique to their situation, such as having a parent deployed for extended periods of time and frequently being uprooted from school.

“Military children endure a great deal of change as a result of a parent’s military career,” said, Douglas Ide, a public affairs officer with the Army’s Community and Family Support Center.

“The military family averages nine moves through a 20-year career and, in doing so, their children must say good-bye to friends, change schools, and start all over again.”

Throughout the month, numerous military commands will plan special events to honor military children. These events will stress the importance of providing children with quality services and support to help them succeed in the mobile military lifestyle, defense personnel and readiness officials said.

According to a Defense Department fact sheet, installations are honoring military children by providing a month packed with special activities that include arts and crafts shows, picnics, carnivals, fairs, parades, block parties, and other special activities that focuses on military children that highlight the unique contributions they make.

The Defense Department will also launch a new tool kit series called “Military Students on the Move.” The tool kit includes material designed to promote more efficient and effective method of moving military children from school to school. The tool kit includes materials for parents, children, installation commanders and school officials.

In addition, the U.S. Air Force recently launched its “Stay Connected” deployment program kits in conjunction with the Month of the Military Child. The kits include items like teddy bears, writing pens and disposable cameras.

“The purpose of the Stay Connected kit is to provide young people and parents an avenue to keep a connection during the deployed members’ time away from home,” Eliza Nesmith, an Air Force family member programs specialist said.

“The items in the kit come in pairs, so that the young person and parent can have an item that will help them remember each other.”

Air Force bases will choose the best distribution method to cor-

## MCBH Month of the Military Child events

### April 14

Family picnic and band concert will be held at the Child Development Center from 6 to 8 p.m. This event will feature the MARFORPAC band. The activities are open to all military and Department of Defense families and their guests.

For more information, call Tebra Minor at 257-1388.

### April 15

MCCS Celebrates Children Sale at Marine Corps Exchange from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. A one-day sale in conjunction with the Month of the Military Child.

For more information call the Exchange at 254-3890.

### April 15

Easter Egg-stravagnza program at the Base Library from 1 to 2 p.m. Enjoy Easter stories, crafts and treats. This event is open to all military, DoD families and their guests.

For more information, call Merri Fernandez at 254-7624.

### April 29

Sunset in the Yard, Youth Activities will be held at Building 5082 from 6 to 11 p.m.

Barbecue menu items will be served. The cost is \$1 for Child Youth and Teen Program members and \$3 for the community at large.

Free movies will be shown on the lawn, so bring something to sit on.

For more information, call Virgina Tamura at 254-7610.

respond with an existing event or develop a new event to best serve their families. For example, Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, will give out Stay Connected kits to deploying service members during its base-wide Month of the Military Child celebration, planned for April 8, Nesmith said.

Throughout the month of April, the U.S. Navy child and youth programs will also be hosting special programs and events to salute military children. These events will include, carnivals, health screening for children, youth talent shows, and more.

“Events that celebrate the

Month of the Military Child stress the importance of providing children with quality services and support to help them succeed in the mobile military lifestyle,” Larrie Jarvis, a Navy child and youth programs analyst said.

Army officials said their bases will plan their own events such as fun runs, bicycle safety courses, carnivals, fishing derbies, community service projects, and other events geared specifically toward children and youth.

The Month of the Military Child is part of the legacy left by former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who died March 28. He established the Defense

# Dad’s, daughter’s yearly dance



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Combat Correspondent

The evening of April 1 brought out smiling faces and fancy dress attire as the Armed Services YMCA hosted their 7th Annual Father/Daughter Dance, at The Officers’ Club, here.

Nearly 300 tickets were sold and many enjoyed music, food, prizes and dancing throughout the evening.

“This is the first time that I’m bringing my daughter Olivia,” said Sgt. Richard M. Caplette, pistol tower noncommissioned

officer, Headquarters Battalion. “She thinks she’s a princess, and her favorite movie is ‘Beauty and the Beast.’ This is her ball, and it will be an annual thing for us from now on, a tradition.”

According to ASYMCA officials, it took approximately two months to prepare for the annual Father/Daughter Dance.

“This is like prom night for so many of these little girls, and so many of them look like Disney princess,” said Jennifer A. Jones, play morning coordinator, ASYMCA.

“A lot of the fathers

have been deployed or will be in the near future, so it’s nice that they have the opportunity to come out here and spend some quality time with their daughters.”

Since the ASYMCA is a nonprofit organization, the prizes that were raffled off during the evening were donations from various companies, said Terri G. Nelson, director, ASYMCA.

“This is my first year as director, and I expected to see a lot of excited little girls,” said the San Diego native.

“I have to admit, I am

not disappointed at all. These girls are so happy to be able to spend time with their fathers I’m glad we could have this opportunity.”

Nelson said she wanted to stress the fact that the evening wouldn’t have been possible if it had not been for the great staff who worked countless hours on the event.

“It takes the effort of a great staff and team to pull something like this together,” said Nelson. “Everything I may have forgotten, they would figure out and fix. It turned out to be a great evening.”

## MOVIE TIME

**Prices:** For Friday and Saturday shows at 7:15, prices are \$3 for adults, 12 and older; \$1.50 for children 6 to 11. Matinee prices are \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16-years-old and younger. Prices for Sunday, Wednesday shows at 6:30 and Friday and Saturday shows at 9:45 are \$2 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Show your ID card when purchasing tickets. Entry is free for children 5 and younger.

**Sneak Preview Policy:** One hour and 45 minutes prior to the movie, tickets will be issued to first priority patrons waiting in line, then second and third priority patrons.

In an effort to prevent piracy, the following security measures will be enforced on base for sneak preview screenings: bag checks, confiscation of cameras or cell phones with picture taking capability (items will be returned after screening), magnetometer wandling, audience scanning with night vision goggles during screening.

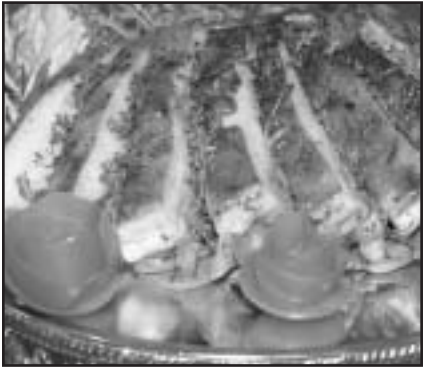
The Base Theater and film companies thank you in advance for your cooperation and hope you will enjoy the show. For recorded information, call the Base Theater at 254-7642.

The Pink Panther (PG)  
Final Destination 3 (R)  
Curious George (G)  
Firewall (PG-13)  
The Pink Panther (PG)  
Firewall (PG-13)  
Final Destination 3 (R)  
Eight Below (PG)  
Date Movie (PG-13)

Today at 7:15 p.m.  
Today at 9:45 p.m.  
Saturday at 7:15 p.m.  
Saturday at 9:45 p.m.  
Sunday at 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
Friday at 7:15 p.m.  
Friday at 9:45 p.m.

# ON THE MENU

## AT ANDERSON HALL



**Today**  
*Lunch*  
Oven roast beef  
Baked tuna and noodles  
Steamed rice  
French fried cauliflower  
Vegetable combo  
Brown gravy  
Chilled horseradish  
Fruit pie  
Chocolate chip cookies

**Pasta specialty bar**  
*Dinner*  
Sauerbraten  
Knockwurst with sauerkraut  
Cottage fried potatoes  
Boiled egg noodles  
Green beans with mushrooms  
Creole Summer squash  
Brown gravy  
Fruit pie  
Chocolate chip cookies

**Saturday**  
*Dinner*  
Grilled steak

Pork chops Mexicana  
Mashed potatoes  
Spanish rice  
Mexican corn  
Peas and mushrooms  
Brown gravy  
Fruit nut bars  
Fruit pies

**Sunday**  
*Dinner*  
Beef pot pie  
Baked ham  
Baked macaroni and cheese  
Club spinach  
Cauliflower au gratin  
Cream gravy  
Bread pudding with lemon Sauce  
Peanut butter cookies  
Fruit pie

**Monday**  
*Lunch*  
Teriyaki chicken  
Salisbury steak  
Mashed potatoes  
Steamed rice  
Simmered carrots  
Simmered lima beans  
Brown gravy  
Apple crisp  
Fruit pie

**Pasta specialty bar**  
*Dinner*  
Baked meat loaf  
Oven roast beef  
Pork fried rice  
Parsley buttered potatoes  
Green beans with mushrooms

Simmered corn  
Brown gravy  
Apple crisp  
Fruit pie

**Tuesday**  
*Lunch*  
Barbecued spareribs  
Veal parmesan  
Oven browned potatoes  
Buttered egg noodles  
Simmered asparagus  
Steamed cauliflower  
Brown gravy  
Devil's food cake  
Fruit pie

**Taco specialty bar**  
*Dinner*  
Swiss steak with brown gravy  
Baked fish fillets  
Lyonnais potatoes  
Steamed rice  
Southern-style green beans  
Vegetable combo  
Brown gravy  
Devil's food cake  
Fruit pie

**Wednesday**  
*Lunch*  
Baked ham  
Chili macaroni  
Candied sweet potatoes  
Grilled cheese sandwich  
French fried okra  
Cauliflower au gratin  
Pineapple sauce  
Bread pudding with lemon sauce  
Peanut butter cookies  
Fruit pie

### Hot dog specialty bar

*Dinner*  
Baked stuffed pork chops  
Turkey pot pie  
Calico corn  
Simmered peas and carrots  
Steamed rice  
Mashed potatoes  
Brown gravy  
Sweet potato pie  
Bread pudding with lemon sauce  
Peanut butter cookies  
Fruit pie

**Thursday**  
*Lunch*  
Cantonese spareribs  
Baked tuna and noodles  
Shrimp fried rice  
Corn on the cob  
Simmered spinach  
Corn bread dressing  
Brown gravy  
Pineapple upside down cake  
Fruit pie

**Taco specialty bar**  
*Dinner*  
Swedish meatballs  
Caribbean chicken  
Steamed rice  
O'brien potatoes  
Simmered brussels sprouts  
Simmered Summer squash  
Chicken gravy  
Pineapple upside down cake  
Fruit pie



## ERDAG

*Editor's Note: Lt. Col. Terri Erdag, executive officer, Headquarters and Service Battalion, U. S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, a 22-year veteran of the Marine Corps shares her thoughts about women in today's sea services. Erdag was a guest speaker at the Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium held aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, last month. In an interview with Hawaii Marine's Lifestyles Editor, Erdag had this to say about how women's role in combat has changed.*

Q: Since you have been deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, Southeast Asia

and Kosovo, what advice do you have for other women who deploy to these regions now and in the future?

A: Deployments are opportunities, not punishments. I would tell anyone, men and women alike, just do your job the best you can. The Marine Corps has trained you well – use it! Another thing: These places are not all “bad.” There are good people there too, with fabulous stories and traditions, nestled in wondrous surroundings. Take a look around, if you get a chance.

Q: I notice that you have received the Purple Heart. When and for what did you receive the award?

A: I've been wounded twice, both since 9-11. The first time was from an IED (improvised explosive device) that had been concealed in a small box in my office. The second was from an attack that occurred while I was escorting some U.S. diplomats who were meeting with local officials. A mob formed outside the shop we were in and then they stormed the place. Fortunately, we were able to escape out the back, but we still had to fight our way back to the last checkpoint.

Q: You recently spoke at the Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium about women's changing

role in the military. Can you explain the trends that you have noticed on each of your deployments with regard to the number of women and the type of jobs women are now performing in the sea services?

A: When I first enlisted, I was assigned as an aircraft mechanic. There were very few women on the flight line back then, let alone on deployments. The men who knew me were fine with it, but other Marines always appeared to be in shock, worried that there would be trouble. During operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the number of deployed women certainly increased. But again, there was always a sense of amazement when we did our jobs – as if we weren't going to do them? That was the first time I was in combat; I'm convinced my unit succeeded, because we had trained together as a team regardless of gender. Today I see young servicemen and women deploying together with ease; it's really no big deal to them. One out of every seven service members in Iraq right now is a woman. Women are serving in almost all occupational fields and in a variety of units.

Q: What do you most attribute the changing role of women in the military to?

A: Two things: The changing nature of warfare and the increased number of women serving in today's armed forces. With The Global War on Terrorism and the high operational tempo of the military, we can no longer afford to leave women at home.

Q: Would you recommend your profession to your own daughter (if you have one)?

A: I don't have any children, but I

have plenty of nieces and nephews. The military takes an enormous amount of dedication and sacrifice. That said, I think it's a wonderful experience for young adults – then, like me, they can make up their own mind if they want to stay.

Q: Do you see the changing status of women in the Marine Corps as a positive, negative, or both?

A: Well, I never thought of women – or men – as having a certain status. That's what makes our Corps great: We're all just Marines.

Q: What advice would you give to women who are thinking about joining the Marine Corps?

A: Don't doubt what you can do – just try.

Q: What are your future career goals?

A: I'm working with the best Marines in the Corps right here in Hawaii. Who could ask for anything more?

Q: Is there anything else you would like to add?

In World War II, there was a recruiting slogan for women that said, “Free a Man to Fight.” Well I don't think we're in that business anymore. Today's military demands that we all be able to fight – whenever and wherever called upon. That's why we've all earned the same title: “Marine.”

## MARINE MAKEPONO

HAWAIIAN FOR  
“MARINE BARGAINS”

### Furniture

**Rattan Sofa**, band new, Hawaiian print, \$395. Call 627-1580.

### Automobiles

**2000 Toyota 4-Runner**, four-wheel drive, fully loaded, leather interior, CD/cassette player, sunroof and tow package. \$13,300, OBO. Call 254-1545.

### Pets

**Puppy for sale**, female Lasa Apso, champion blood-line, 3.5 months old, \$1,200, OBO. Registered and microchipped. Call 782-8062.

**Minature Schnauzer puppy**, champion blood-line, 10 months old, \$800, OBO. Registered, house-broken and microchipped. Call 782-8062.

### Miscellaneous

**Classic style guitar**, like new, \$140. Longboard, 7', good shape, \$200, OBO. Call 779-7895.

**Surfboards**, 8' board, \$350. 7'2" board, \$275. TSA weight machine, \$95. Tony Little, Gazelle Freestyle, exercise machine, \$75. Call 261-1425.

### Hawaii Marine Ads

*Ads are accepted from active duty and retired military personnel, their family members and MCB Hawaii civil service employees.*

*Ads are free, but should consist of no more than 20 words. Ads will appear in two issues of the **Hawaii Marine**, on a space available basis. Those interested in advertising must bring a valid DoD-issued ID to the **Hawaii Marine** office. The deadline for submitting ads to the **Hawaii Marine** is 4 p.m. the Friday of the week prior to publication.*

*Makepono may be used only for noncommercial classified ads containing items of personal property.*

*Forms may be filled out Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the MCB Hawaii Public Affairs Office, located in Building 216 aboard Kaneohe Bay.*

*Ads are run on a first-come, first-served basis.*

*To renew an ad or for more information, call the **Hawaii Marine** office at 257-8837 or 257-8835.*

# Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society credits employees, volunteers for years of service



Patricia Perry, (front) Navy Marine Corps Relief Society director helps a service member obtain a loan for car repairs, while Beth Cooling, chairman of volunteers for NMCRS checks over the budget document that will grant the Marine his loan.

**Corinne Knutson**  
*Lifestyles Editor*

When Patricia Perry, also known as Auntie Pat, started her career at the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, she made 90 cents an hour as a bookkeeper at Barbers Point Naval Air Station. Now, 45 years later, Perry is the director of the Kaneohe NMCRS. As director, she helps Marines and Sailors with loans, provides budget counseling, and other services.

“NMCRS has over 3,000 volunteers throughout the world with a little over 200 paid staff. And I’m number one on the totem pole,” Perry said.

In February, the society held its 10th Annual Volunteer of the Year Luncheon at the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu. In recognition of her four-plus decades of service, Perry was awarded a ruby and diamond pin and presented with a dozen long-stem roses by NMCRS’s president and chief executive officer, retired Adm. Steve Abbot.

“I felt like a queen for a day,” Perry said.

Chrissy Harlow, NMCRS’s chairman of receptionists was named Volunteer of the Year and Polly Kleinpaste, chairman of publicity, both received a Kokua award for service at the Kaneohe Bay branch.

NMCRS processed 564 cases in 2005, amounting to almost 47 cases per month, awarding \$429,780 to Marines and Sailors.

Perry said a budget review is completed on each service member.

“Our trained volunteers determine financial need,” she said, “For each case, I have to see an identification card,

power of attorney, a list of monthly expenses, estimated cost of services to be rendered, and pay stub or a leave and earning statement.”

Information given to the society is kept confidential, however, one Marine, Cpl. Joel Seward, aircraft mechanic, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-362 agreed to speak with us. Seward received a loan for car repairs through NMCRS on March 28.

Seward said, he found out about the society through his shop.

“It’s there for the Marines and Navy and it’s interest-free so it’s good because personal loans are usually at high interest and most people can’t afford to get them, because they don’t have any credit history.”

Seward also said he donated to the NMCRS Annual Fund Drive and that the staff at the society was helpful in getting the loan in a timely manner.

Perry said she loves the fact that her job is all about helping people.

“We never check credit, so we see people who try to get a loan from outside sources and they can’t because of their credit. But with Navy relief we are just trustees of their own money. So if it falls under our policy, we will help them,” she said.

NMCRS offers interest-free loans and grants to Marines and Sailors who have had a family emergency; incur unforeseen medical and dental costs; are unable to pay rent, utilities, vehicle repairs; or funeral expenses.

Perry said that the society turns away approximately 5 percent of the Marines and Sailors who come to NMCRS.

“We do turn some people away, because we don’t do consolidation loans, but we can refer them to outside sources for help.”

According to Perry, most service members who come to NMCRS don’t need loans, they just need an education on how to make payments on time.

“We do that here,” she said. “In an hour and a half we look over their budget and teach them what they need to do, we teach them the difference between a need and a want.”

Beth Cooling, chairman of volunteers for NMCRS, said she enjoys helping the service members take control of their finances. She said that NMCRS offers hope to Marines and Sailors who find themselves in a financial hard spot.

NMCRS loans are often set up on a pay schedule and are automatically deducted from the service member’s wages. According to Perry, this is why there is no need to charge interest on loans. However, as a nonprofit organization, the society depends on donations during their annual fund drive.

This year’s fundraising drive is underway and will continue until April 21. Service members who would like to donate to the NMCRS should contact their unit representative who is spearheading the NMCRS fundraiser for their unit.

“I’ve seen a lot of changes in the last 45 years, but all of the changes have been for the benefit of the service members,” said Perry.

“The education that goes on here is the best. We teach them to save money for their future.”

# MCCS silent auto auction

A silent auction will be underway starting April 10 and will run until April 26 at the Auto Skills Center in Building 3097 aboard base, for bids on the vehicles listed below. Bids will be taken by placing a sealed ballot in the box provided at the Auto Skills Center. Bidding will close at the end of the business day on the date specified. The boxes will be opened the day after closing and the persons with the highest bids will be notified.

## Vehicles to be bid on are:

- 1993 Toyota Tercel, \$300, runs well, bad paint and interior
- 1997 VW Jetta, \$50, run, needs electrical work/interior\*
- 1990 Mazda MX-6, \$150, runs well, exhaust leak, clutch works
- 1990 Cadillac Sedan, \$50, runs, possible head gaskets\*
- 1989 Pontiac Firebird, \$100, runs on starting fluid, parts only\*
- 1994 Ford, Thunderbird, \$100, runs, needs repairs\*

- 1973 Dodge Charger, \$2,000, runs well, all original
- 1990 Toyota Camry \$600, runs well, body good
- 1969 VW Bug, \$50, not running, rusty, parts only\*

Items marked with an asterisk are listed for final auction. If not sold, autos will go to salvage.

For auto information, call 254-7674 or e-mail carl.cabrera@usmc-mccs.org.

DO NOT  
MOVE!

# Education help for military’s children of globetrotting parents

**Lissa Ann Wohltmann**  
*Lifelines*

“We are geared towards enhancing brick and mortar schools,” said Liz Pape, president and CEO of Virtual High School. Through VHS the students can explore many more courses while still enrolled in high school, she added. Taking classes online would seem a perfect fit for children of, often times, nomadic military parents.

“This is a great way to offer continuity,” Pape said about this nearly decade-old school. Although a student cannot graduate from VHS, any student around the world could take classes toward a high school diploma. “We are not a degree-granting program,” she said. “Our specialty is ‘AP’ or Advanced Placement courses.

VHS, based in Maynard, Mass., currently has American international children enrolled in the curriculum. Since all courses are taught using the English language, American teens can communicate with their Japanese or Korean classmates, for example.

“The global culture is really important,” she said. “Probably the Defense Department is more aware of it than are people in the states.”

Yet an online environment won’t work for everyone.

“Some people need the social aspect of school,” said Jeffrey Elliot, president and CEO of Advanced Academics, another online school that has a different focus. They mainly cater to the at-risk students, the kids who recently quit school and those with extensive family commitments and can’t get to a regular classroom.

“It’s an alternative that we feel isn’t provided elsewhere,” Russell Randolph, the director of education said.

Since they are Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation and North Central Association accredited, they would be able to offer a diploma, but they don’t at this time.

Advanced Academics courses are also provided all over the world. Currently, they partner with about 80 American school districts throughout 19 states. They don’t have a connection with the Norfolk school district – one of the largest Navy hubs in the world – but have partnered with several California school districts, where many Sailors reside. In fact, most of their clients live on the coasts even though their Oklahoma City office is in the middle of the country.

The cost associated with taking classes at both online schools varies. At Advanced Academics, for example, it would cost roughly \$3,000 to \$3,600 for one student to attend one year of classes. For VHS, class fees can fluctuate dependant upon a local school’s participation. However, the cost savings of online schools over brick and mortar schools is generally 50 percent.

The Department of Defense spends, on average, \$14,285 to send one child to its overseas DoD schools. In the continental U.S., DoD spends \$11,841 per student for its domestic schools. Therefore the cost savings to taxpayers of military children enrolled in either of these schools is worth noting.

